

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN SA 04058 092224Z

13

ACTION EB-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-01 OPIC-02 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-01 SIL-01 OMB-01 DOTE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 L-02 NSC-07 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-04 DRC-01

/074 W

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R 092145Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6596

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN SALVADOR 4058

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELTN; EINV; BEXP; ES

SUBJ: GOES TAKEOVER OF IRCA: EL SALVADOR TAKES ASSETS BUT NOT
LIABILITIES

REF: SAN SALVADOR 3977

1. DURING MY OCTOBER 3 CALL ON DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CASTANEDA, REPORTED IN REFTTEL, DCM AND I WERE ASSURED BY HIM IN CONTEXT OF HIS JUST HAVING COME FROM THE PRESIDENCY, THAT THE GOES WAS ASSUMING ALL LIABILITIES OF IRCA AS PART OF ITS TAKEOVER. I AGAIN SPOKE WITH CASTANEDA OCTOBER 8 AT MY DCM'S HOME. HE TOLD ME THAT HIS COMMENTS IN THIS REGARD MAY, UNFORTUNATELY, NOT HAVE BEEN ACCURATE. NOT BEING FULLY INFORMED OF THE DETAILS OF THE TAKEOVER, CASTANEDA HAD ASSUMED, AS HAD I, THAT THE SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT WAS TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR IRCA'S LIABILITIES AS WELL AS ITS ASSETS. THIS WAS NOT CORRECT. A SOMEWHAT CHAGRINED CASTANEDA AFTER QUIZZING LABOR MINISTER CHAVEZ WHO WAS ALSO PRESENT (A MEMBER OF THE IRCA TAKEOVER TASK-FORCE) FOR OUR MUTUAL BENEFIT, MODIFIED HIS EARLIER STATEMENTS. CHAVEZ AFFIRMED

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PAGE 02 SAN SA 04058 092224Z

THAT THE GOES IS NOT ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY FOR IRCA'S LIABIL-

ITIES BUT ONLY TAKING OVER ITS PHYSICAL ASSETS AND LABOR FORCE.
I RESPONDED THAT THIS CASTA THE GOES ACTION IN A SOMEWHAT
DIFFERENT
LIGHT AND MAY MAKE ITS ACTION LESS PALA-
TABLE TO U.S OBSERVERS. CASTANEDA, TAKING NOTE OF MY COMMENTS
AND EXPRESSION OF CONCERN, AGREED TO INQUIRE FURTHER INTO THIS
MATTER. CAMPBELL

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